

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): Oil wiping ring (10) for pistons of internal combustion engines, having a closed working surface (13) that rests against the cylinder wall, as well as an upper and lower ring wall (11a, 11c) that run parallel to one another, between which a radial recess (12a) for accommodating a screw-shaped spring (M), which recess runs over the circumference, is disposed in the center of the ring back (12), whereby the ring walls (11a, 11c) have face surfaces (12b, 12c) on the circumference side that are wave-shaped towards the ring back (12), ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wave-shaped face surfaces (12b, 12c) of the upper and lower ring wall are phase-shifted relative to one another.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): Oil wiping ring for pistons of internal combustion engines according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the phase shift amounts to 170° to 190°, preferably 180°.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): Oil wiping ring for pistons of internal combustion engines according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wave shape of the face surfaces (12b, 12c) follows a sine function.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): Oil wiping ring for pistons of internal combustion engines according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the face surfaces (12b, 12c) of the upper and lower ring wall (11a, 11c) have a number of waves of 20 to 50 on the circumference.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): Oil wiping ring for pistons of internal combustion engines according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the number of waves of the face surfaces (12b, 12c) of upper and lower ring wall is the same.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): Oil wiping ring for pistons of internal combustion engines according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the face surfaces (12b, 12c) of upper and lower ring wall ~~has~~ have a wave amplitude that corresponds to at least half the diameter of the screw-shaped spring (M).